

FHWA Publishes New Lithium Fact Book for ASR Structures



Lithium treatment via vacuum impregnation on Route 2 near Leominster, Massachusetts



Lithium treatment via topical application on I-84 near Mountain Home, Idaho

Alkali Silica Reaction (ASR) is a major durability problem that can lead to unwanted expansion and cracking of concrete, resulting in premature deterioration of concrete structures. The use of lithium compounds to combat ASR expansion has led to research in evaluating the effects of lithium compounds in mitigating and preventing ASR. This new FHWA publication, "The Use of Lithium to Prevent or Mitigate Alkali Silica Reaction in Concrete Pavements and Structures", also known as the "lithium fact book", provides cutting edge information on the origin, properties, and applications of lithium, as well as its use in fresh and hardened concrete.

In the new lithium facts book you can:

- Understand the origin, property, and application of lithium
- Understand the mechanism of alkali silica reaction and how lithium works
- Learn innovative test methods that identify potential alkali silica reactive aggregates
- Learn how the use of lithium as an admixture for fresh concrete reduces alkali silica reaction
- Learn how lithium limits expansion and cracking in ASR-affected structures

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